(b) The allocation for the development of National Highways is made State-wise and not National Highway-wise. The details of funds allocated to State Governments and Border Roads Organisation and utilised for the development of National Highways during the last three years are as under:—

	Funds Allocated (Rupees in Crore)	Funds Utilised (Rupees in Crore)
1999-2000	1546.52	1399.83
2000-2001	1875.08	1622.00
2001-2002	1900.34	1730.78

(c) For increasing the pace of utilisation of funds, the following measures have been taken:—

(i) Introduction of Direct Payment Procedure.

(ii) Early Sanction of Projects.

(iii) Close Monitoring of Works.

National Highway No. 3

†3093. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme to widen the stretch of the National Highway No. 3 (Agra-Mumbai) falling in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of accidents that occurred due to narrowness of this highway at some of the places; and

(c) whether Government propose to widen the highway on priority basis at those places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) The total length of National Highway No. 3 is 712 km. in the State of Madhya Pradesh. Out of this 55 kms. from Uttar Pradesh Border to Gwalior is being widened under the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) and 50 km. of Indore-Dewas Section & 2 km. in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Shivpuri town have already been widened to four lane. 1 km. road in Guna town is being widened to 4 lane. Rest of the road from Gwalior upto Maharashtra border to two lane. The feasibility study and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for four laning the stretch from Indore to Khalghat (in a length of 74 kms.) is under preparation.

No accident on account of narrowness of this highway has been reported.

Provision of world class roads

3094. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if proper roads are provided in cities and highways, the efficiency of trucks would be more than the double as trucks would cover 600 kilometres per day against 250—300 kilometres at present and better multiple axle truck could be used finally resulting in a drop in freight rates; and

(b) if so, Government's plans for providing world class roads and the time-frame for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Efficiency of trucks and motorised vehicles is dependent upon several factors including road conditions. Therefore, it is difficult to quantify increase in efficiency due to improvement in road conditions alone. The World Bank has assessed that on completion of the Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) savings to the Nation would be of the order of about Rs. 8000 crore per year. Use of multiple axle vehicle is also recommended by this Ministry.

(b) Government has undertaken National Highway Development Project (NHDP) for 4/6-laning of National Highways consisting of GQ having a length of 5846 km. connecting the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai and North-South and East-West corridors (Corridors) having a length of 7300 km. connecting Srinagar in J&K to Kanyakumari alongwith Salem-Cochin spur and Silchar to Porbandar. GQ and Corridors are scheduled for substantial completion by December, 2003 and December, 2007 respectively.